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THE CARP ARE COMING: This alien species could wreak havoc if it makes it into the Great Lakes

November 10, 2003

These fish jump all right, sometimes right into boats. They've knocked people unconscious and given them whiplash. And that's just the beginning of why the huge Asian carp have to be kept out of the Great Lakes.

The big problem is their appetites. Wherever they go, they suck up all the tiny water life that sustains small fish and many of the other creatures at the bottom of the food web. Other fish populations crash.

The Michigan Senate has passed a bill outlawing the release of many live non-native fish, including these carp, into state waters. The House should follow suit, and Michigan's congressional delegation should push fast and hard for more money and better plans to hold off the leaping creatures.

Don't let Asian carp -- or any other species -- jump into the Great Lakes basin.

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